



State of California
The Natural Resources Agency
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)

NOTICE OF EXEMPTION

PROJECT TITLE	Communication Tower Fuel Reduction		
PROJECT LOCATION	Various communication infrastructure locations	COUNTY	Riverside
LEAD AGENCY	California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)		
CONTACT	P.O Box 2097		
ADDRESS	Idyllwild, CA 92549	PHONE	951-659-3337 ext 5

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Conduct hazardous fuel reduction activities around ~75 Public Safety Emergency Communications and other fire and law enforcement radio repeater sites to comply with State and County fire ordinances and better protect these critical infrastructure communications sites from wildfire. Fuel reduction activities include removing and clearing away all flammable vegetation and other combustible growth within 30 feet of each building or structure while keeping single trees or other vegetation only if trimmed of all dead and dying foliage and if pruned and maintained. The project will also reduce the fuel loading within the 30' up to 150' zone by weed-eating and removing selected vegetation in order to decrease the horizontal and vertical fuel continuity. The project will require handwork cutting methods only.

EXEMPTION STATUS

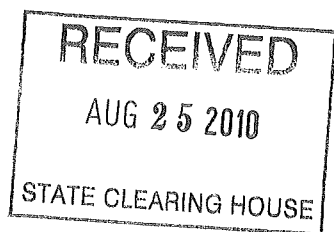
- ☒ Categorical Exemption Type/Section: Class 4 §15304 (i) Minor Alterations to Land
☐ Statutory Exemption (state code section):
☐ Ministerial (§21080(b)(1); 15268)
☐ Declared Emergency (§21080(b)(3); 15269(a))
☐ Emergency Project (§21080(b)(4); 15269(b)(c))

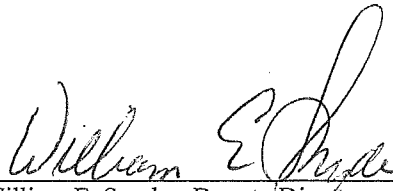
REASONS PROJECT IS EXEMPT

This project fits under portions of Categorical Exemptions to CEQA Class 4 15304 (i) Minor Alterations to Land. The more intensive work such as clearing flammable material to mineral soil will occur within 30' of structures which have been previously disturbed during the construction and maintenance of the facilities. Activities within the 30'-150' zone will be completed using weed-eaters and chainsaws to reduce the amount of flammable material as specified in Public Resource Code 4291. Material created by the project will either be chipped back onsite or hauled offsite using a truck and chipper confined to existing roads.

Field review by CAL FIRE staff confirmed that no exceptions apply which would preclude the use of a Notice of Exemption for this project. The Department has concluded that no significant environmental impact would occur to aesthetics, agriculture and forestland/timberland, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, greenhouse gas emissions, hazards and hazardous materials, hydrology and water quality, land use planning, mineral resources, noise, population and housing, public services, recreation, transportation/traffic, or to utilities and service systems. Documentation of the environmental review completed by the Department is kept on file at the Mountain Resource Center located at 25380 Franklin Dr, Idyllwild CA, 92549

DATE RECEIVED FOR FILING




William E. Snyder, Deputy Director Date 8/24/10
California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection